

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Tomoaki Nagano et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Statement
Serial No.: 09/991,114) Group: 2161
Filed: November 13, 2001) Examiner: not yet assigned
For: "APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR) Our Ref: B-4384 619300-5
EDITING AND SELLING CREATURE DATA") Date: June 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

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In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the first Official Action for the corresponding Chinese application no. 01138551.0. A copy of the Official Action is enclosed herewith (5 pages). Also enclosed is an English-language translation of the first Official Action for the corresponding Chinese application no. 01138551.0 (7 pages).

Chinese Document No. 1193145A is not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Chinese Document No. 1193145 can be found in the enclosed English-language abstract (1 page).

Chinese Document No. 1211330A is not in English. However, European Patent Application No. EP 0791901A2 appears to be a counterpart document which is in English.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

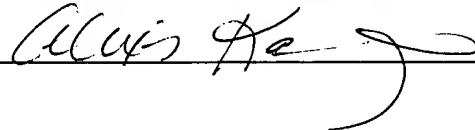
Information Disclosure Statement
USSN 09/991,114
June 18, 2003
Page 2

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on June 18, 2003 by Alexis Karriker.



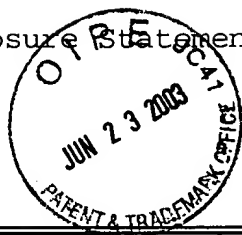
Respectfully submitted,



Richard P. Berg
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 28,145

LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 2100
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 934-2300

Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of Official Action for Chinese patent application
no. 01138551.0 (5 pages)
Copy of English-language translation of Official
Action for Chinese patent application no.
01138551.0 (7 pages)
Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)



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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-4384 619300-5	U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/991,114
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANTS Tomoaki Nagano, et al.	
	FILING DATE November 13, 2001	GROUP 2161

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	1193145A	9/1998	CN			abstract
	1211330A	3/1999	CN			
	0 791 901 A2	8/1997	EP			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.